



Era Aviation, Inc.

6160 Carl Brady Drive
Anchorage, Alaska
99502

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
JUN 25 2001

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June 11, 2001

FAA-01-10007-1

14 CFR 11.25 Petitions for rule making or exemptions.

(a) Petitioner:

Era Aviation Inc., a part 135 operator certificate # ERAA075A.

(b) (1) Proposed effective date of the exemption:

October 12, 2001.

(b) (2) (iv) Submitted in duplicate to:

Rules Docket (AGC-10)
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

(b) (3) Exemption is sought from rules:

14 CFR 135.152 (a)

(b) (4) Interests of petitioner:

To provide the public with safe and economical helicopter operations by:

1. Allowing the continued operation of 2 Sikorsky S-76A helicopters registration numbers N575EH and N579EH serial numbers 760366 and 760274 respectively currently owned by Era Aviation without a DFDR installed.

(b) (5) Public interest and safety:

Operations without a Digital Flight Data Recorder installed do not degrade safety in any manner.

A DFDR is an investigative tool used in the determination of cause in the event of an accident.

The NTSB accident data for rotorcraft operated under part 135 with a passenger seating of 10 to 19 does not indicate that the cause of the accidents is in question or that the investigative process would have been improved by the requirement for a DFDR.

Other petitioners have been granted similar relief. Helicopters as to which relief from the provisions of the DFDR rule have been granted by FAA to date include, among others, the Sikorsky S-76A. See, e.g., Exemption No. 6788A, Docket No. 29109, issued to Mobil Business Resources Corporation on January 31, 2000 (one Sikorsky S-76A helicopter); Exemption No. 6714B, Docket No. 28855, issued to Offshore Logistics, inc., on January 31, 2000 (seven Sikorsky S-76A helicopters); Exemption No. 6789, Docket No. 29174, issued to Hawaii Helicopters on January 31, 2000 (one Sikorsky S-76A helicopter). 65 Fed. Reg. 14333 (March 16, 2000) Petroleum Helicopters Inc. Exemption No. 6713D (two S-76A helicopters).

Era currently operates 37 other rotorcraft with a passenger-seating configuration of 10 to 19 seats without DFDR's installed.

(c) N/A

Summary:

(d) (1) Citation of rules:

14 CFR 135.152 a

(d) (2) Description of relief requested:

That Era Aviation be exempted from the requirements of 135.152 (a) and be allowed to operate the Sikorsky S-76A rotorcraft referenced above without a DFDR installed.

Pursuant to 14 CFR § 11.25, good cause exists to waive publication of this petition for exemption in the Federal Register, because the exemption, if granted, would not set a precedent, and any delay in acting on this petition would be a detriment to Era Aviation and the public.

Sincerely,



Mark B. Jongs
Vice President of Maintenance